



VOL. II NO. 384

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1947.

Dine  
At the

P.G.

For  
Reservations  
Tel: 27880

Price 20 Cents



EX-KING MICHAEL

#### WAR IN GREECE

### Guerillas On Run

Athens, Dec. 30.—The Government today said that Greek reinforcements, striking from the Jannina area, had driven General Markos Vafthiades' guerillas from the hills south and southwest of besieged Konitsa and were smashing at the "iron ring" around the town.

The War Minister, M. George Stratos, said the Government counter-offensive was progressing "successfully and rapidly" and claimed that the guerillas south of Konitsa were retreating northward before an attack of the Eighth Division. He said the town defenders had repulsed all attacks, indicating that relief had not yet reached Konitsa itself.

A small force of about 700 men is holding the town against attacks by some 3,000 guerillas headed by Markos himself, and the townsmen have radioed urgent appeals for help.

#### SUPPLIES FROM AIR

Government Air Force planes, favoured by clear weather over the rugged hills of Northwest Greece, dropped food and other supplies to the isolated Konitsa defenders during the day.

M. Stratos said the advancing troops had cleared the strategic hilltops between Kalpaki and the Bourazani bridge and were advancing toward the Bourazani and Volos bridges, keys to the Konitsa approaches.

It was reported that the United Nations Balkan Commission observation team, including Col. A. C. Miller of the United States, had reached Kalpaki, 12 miles south of Konitsa, and planned to tour the front.—United Press.

#### Singapore Piracy

Singapore, Dec. 30.—Masked pirates seized a small Chinese coastal vessel two miles off Singapore. They looted her of over US\$2,700 worth of coconut oil and escaped.—Associated Press.

#### EDITORIAL

### A Missing Link

HONGKONG and Canton are at present linked by river, rail, air, radio and through the post offices. There should be a sixth line of communication—radio telephony. Before the war the two cities were able to communicate by trunk line, telephone—a service of enormous value to businessmen. Today the quickest method of contact is by cable. Hongkong and Manila can exchange calls by radio telephony and only the formal approval from Lisbon is awaited to put a similar service into operation between the Colony and Macao. Why is Canton behind the times? The answer, it would appear, is simple. The Chinese authorities are insisting on receiving two-thirds of the total takings as they did under the pre-war agreement. But there is an important distinction which makes it necessary for the Hongkong authorities to demand a 50-50 sharing. The original telephone communications between Hongkong and Canton were by trunk lines, with Canton having to meet a bigger proportion of cable-laying and maintenance charges; hence it was agreed that Canton was entitled to a bigger share of the income. With radio telephony, however, the costs are equally borne and Hongkong, not unreasonably, adopts the attitude that takings should also be

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

For the Proprietor of  
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,  
For and on behalf of  
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.  
Printed and Published

STEADFAST  
COURAGE



### King Michael's Abdication BELIEVED CAUSED BY HIS ROMANCE

### Rumanian Republic

London, Dec. 30.—King Michael, the 26-year-old monarch of Rumania, today signed away his throne and all Royal prerogatives left him by his exiled father, King Carol, and a "Popular Republic" was proclaimed in the Communist-dominated state.

An extraordinary session of the Rumanian Parliament tonight unanimously accepted the bill proclaiming Rumania a "People's Republic."

King Michael was known to have quarrelled with his Government over his romance with the 24-year-old Princess Anne, of Bourbon-Parma, but the proclamation announcing his abdication to the Rumanian people tonight gave the reason as the "deep political, economic and social changes" which had taken place in the past few years in Rumania.

"The monarchy represents an obstacle in the way of the development of our State towards a régime of the people's democracy, which guarantees to the working men of our country good material and cultural conditions as well as independence and the sovereignty of the Rumanian State."

"The abolition of the monarchy has opened magnificent prospects to our people's democracy. Workers, farmers, intellectuals, soldiers and officers, citizens! Let us raise to new heights the standard of life in our State—the Rumanian People's Republic, the Fatherland of all those who devote themselves to manual or intellectual work in our villages and in our cities."

The proclamation was signed by Dr. Petru Groza, the Rumanian Prime Minister, and all Under-Secretaries of State.

**THE PEOPLE'S DESTINY**

The Rumanian Government, in its proclamation on King Michael's abdication, told the Rumanian people that they had been given the freedom to choose for themselves a new form of State and had "taken their destiny into their own hands."

"The Rumanian people, liberated in 1944 from the yoke of Fascist conquerors and their servants, has taken its destiny in its own hands," the proclamation said.

"Handed by a conscientious and resolute working class allied to an industrious peasantry, the Rumanian people have rejected the régime of the Boyars (the old land-owning families), punished traitors of the interests of the people and eliminated from the state administration all those who protected the interests of their enslavers."

"In this private life, he was reported to have been 'infatuated' with the hoyden daughter of an oil millionaire, whom Hitler would not allow him to marry."

He worked against his Ministers, who sent Rumanian divisions to fight with the Germans against the Russians.

On August 23, 1944, when the Russian armies had advanced to only 110 kilometres from his palace, King Michael led a coup d'état by which the National Peasant, the Liberal, Socialist and Communist parties threw off the Fascist rule and united to hasten victory.

Afterwards, he worked to form a government acceptable equally to the Canton authorities regard Hongkong as part of their territory and only by their good graces can we expect to enjoy the advantages of such a service. This deliberate misconception of Hongkong's status vis-à-vis China is becoming tiresome. It is the sort of theme which we have come to expect from irresponsible and self-appointed Chinese "authorities"; but we hardly expect such nonsense to be uttered by the Canton Government. Technically, a radio telephony service between Hongkong and Canton has been ready for six months, a period wasted by quibbling. Radio telephony communications would offer the same advantages to businessmen and private residents in Canton as they would here, and it is conceivable that this service would have the added value of doing away with illegal and non-registered transmitting stations, of which there are many in Hongkong. We believe that a substantial proportion of the public in both cities desire a radio telephony service which could come into existence immediately if Canton would agree to more equitable terms.

#### THE KINGS DEPART

With his abdication, there is only one monarchy left in the Balkans—King Paul, of Greece, who succeeded his brother, George, in April this year.

Six kings in South-eastern Europe have abdicated or been deposed or expelled since 1939.

King Zog, of Albania, was driven out by the Italian invasion of his country at Easter, 1939.

King Michael's father, King Carol II, of Rumania, resigned under German pressure on September 6, 1940.

King Peter II, of Yugoslavia, was deposed on November 29, 1945, when the Yugoslav Constituent Assembly proclaimed a republic.

King Simeon II, of Bulgaria, was deposed following a referendum in favour of a republic in September, 1946.

King Victor Emmanuel III, of Italy, abdicated in May, 1946. His son, Umberto, ceased to be king following referendum in favour of an Italian republic in June, 1946.—Reuters.

### Salaries Report

#### Tomorrow

It was officially announced this morning that a statement concerning the decision of the Secretary of State on the Salaries Commission's recommendations is in the course of preparation and will be published in the papers tomorrow.

### Savage Communal Riot In Haifa 47 KILLED AND 49 WOUNDED

### Jerusalem Battle

Jerusalem, Dec. 30.—Arab riflemen stormed a Jewish machine-gun post in Jerusalem's German colony, starting a new gun battle, as darkness fell tonight after the most savage communal riot so far in Palestine's 30-day "masked civil war."

The machine-gun post was reported to be manned by Haganah, the Jewish defence militia. The colony had been evacuated by the Jews shortly after the United Nations partition decision late last month when two Jewish shops were bombed and set on fire.

Jerusalem was cut off from the rest of the world for one hour tonight when Arab telephone operators left their posts in the city's General Post Office.

In the fighting at the Haifa oil refineries today, 41 Jews and six Arabs were killed and another 49 wounded.

British troops and police then occupied the Consolidated Refineries oil factory—the Mediterranean terminal of the Iraq pipeline—and an air of quiet settled on the port.

The German colony was a badland of shooting tonight as Arab riflemen were reported to have gone into action against the Haganah machine-gun post.

The oil refinery rioting is the biggest incident since the partition decision touched off the racial disorders in Palestine. The fighting began when two "barrel" bombs were hurled from a speeding car among 100 Arab labourers standing by the main gate of the Consolidated Oil refinery plant on the Haifa-Acre road in north Palestine.

In a matter of seconds, hundreds of infuriated Arabs ran amok in the yard of the plant, stoning, punching and stabbing Jewish workers there.

The yard became filled with shrieking, milling, mauling and kicking men.

#### TROOPS CHARGE

Steel helmeted troops of the crack British cavalry regiment, the Third Hussars, charged into the centre of the riot, but did not disperse the fighters until the casualty role reached the highest figure for any single incident since the partition was announced.

Official estimates tonight said that 41 Jews were killed and seven wounded, with six Arabs dead and 42 wounded.

The barrel bombs which precipitated the riot were said to be similar in type to the one which killed 13 Arabs and wounded more than 30 at the Damascus Gate, Jerusalem, yesterday.

A stiff fight is anticipated in some quarters where the two blockade-runners, the Pan York and Pan Crescent, arrive with nearly 12,000 British troops.

The ships, described as the best-protected immigrant vessels yet seen by doctors who helped to examine them at the Bosphorus control point of Buyukdere, are now being shadowed through the Aegean Sea by units of the Royal Navy, a Reuter despatch from Athens stated today.

Other troubles reported in Palestine today included:

#### BRITISH POLICE KILLED

Jerusalem:—Three British policemen were killed in Jerusalem today, it was officially reported. One died outright and a second, later of wounds when unknown assailants threw a hand-grenade and opened automatic fire in Agripa's Way, in the heart of the Jewish quarter.

A third fell under a hail of Arab bullets while on escort duty at the troubled Holy Land.

In this apparently thoughtless task, numbers of British lives have been lost, but both Arabs and Jews continue to accuse the British of favoritism to the other side. British troops and police have drawn up plans for greater protection of convoys travelling inland from the coast, while there is no doubt that the security forces are stretched to the limit as clashes are occurring all over the country.—Reuters.

### UNRRA's US\$372,453,000 Aid To China

Washington, Dec. 30.—The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration today disclosed that it had spent US\$372,453,000, excluding medical aid, for post-war relief and reconstruction in China.

The figures were given in a message from Maj.-Gen. Lowell W. Rooks, UNRRA Director General, to the Chinese government on the eve of the withdrawal of the UNRRA Mission from China.

General Rooks wrote: "The

UNRRA programme included US\$183,251,000 for food supplies, which we believe helped materially to alleviate starvation and suffering in food-deficient areas in China.

"We have high hopes that good crops from now on will further alleviate the situation, especially with the introduction of agricultural machinery and fertilizers under the agricultural programme."

"On the rehabilitation side, the UNRRA programme included US\$169,742,000 for rehabilitation of industrial enterprises and transporta-

tion and US\$72,400,000 for agricultural rehabilitation."

General Rooks did not give the figure for the medical programme, which included the flight by special plane of a number of consignments of urgently needed medicine serums to avert epidemics."

The Director General added that the China operation was one of the most complex handled by UNRRA due to the nation's eight years of enemy occupation and the complete disruption of transportation.—United Press.



# Women BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.

Lois Leeds wishes you a Happy New Year and tells you how to have one.

**A NEW YEAR!**

Well here's Now Year, a year in which to do all of the things that you have promised yourself!

I know of no better plan than one for your Health and Beauty. Lay your plans carefully now and be sure to keep to your self-imposed schedule.

It is important to go over your food and diet plans. If you are overweight, record your weight now. Then start a sensible Food Control plan. Of course, if you don't feel well, consult your physician. If you are underweight, the above advice is for you, also.

A set of exercises should be pinned to your work sheet.

Study your skin, your hair, your contour, then set to work. Deep cleansing for skin beautification and improvement, new makeup colours which will "do something" for your own special skin and hair colour. Get a new outlook on life—read books which will give you a new slant and provide food for thought as well as for conversation.

**GLITTER GOWN***Minute Makeup*  
by GABRIELLE

Long sleeves, full skirt, and its tulle front covered with glittering sequins... smoky pink wool dinner dress from the Michael Sherard collection.

**SIDE GLANCES**

By Galbraith



Copyright 1947 by NEA SERVICE, INC., T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

"Honest, Mr. Simpson, I'm not really a witch! It's me, Rosemary, see?"

## Distress Brings Gain To Indian Racketeers

Lush new black market fields were opened by communal rioting and fighting in Kashmir, writes Associated Press correspondent Milton Kelly.

The eruption of fierce communal fighting caused acute shortages of food and other necessities. To those complaints were added the voices of opium smokers, who said their normal supply sources had been upset. Black marketeers took advantage of the situation.

### BEREAVED FAMILY'S PEACE MOVE

Because Capt. John Putnam, Jr., was shot down on his 52nd mission over Europe during the war, his sorrowing family has started a peace movement. It is gathering public support in America.

The peace movement, known as World Security Workers, has gained support of many leading citizens in different parts of the country. Dr. Albert Einstein is one of the supporters, its promoters claim.

The idea of world security workers is a crusade to create a mass demand for the establishment of world government, was born in the family of John B. Putnam, a Cleveland attorney.

After the death of John, Jr., the family felt it must do something to prevent a repetition of warfare. Out of months of discussion with civic leaders, World Security Workers emerged.

**World Government**

The organization advocates centralized world government with law and a military arm to enforce its decision upon the nations, but has no blueprint of the form such a government should take. It is meant to serve only as an instrument through which millions of people wanting an orderly world, can make themselves heard by their government leaders, according to the founders.

The Putnams believe that when the swell of sentiment becomes impelling enough, extending through the U.S. and eventually the world, national leaders cannot resist the demand for the establishment of a world government.

**Formidable Wall**

"If Russia, at first, does not care to come along," said Mrs. Putnam, who runs the organization's office here, "she'll find herself behind a wall of people far more impenetrable than the iron curtain."

"There has always been a government for war. Now we'll have a world government for peace with rules so strong that nobody can upset us again."

Membership in World Security Workers is accomplished by signing a pledge to give active support to the cause of world government. There are no dues.

### QUONSET HUT MONASTERY

What may be the first monastery ever constructed of Quonset huts is to be built in Huntsville, Utah, for the Catholic order of Cistercians, or Trappist fathers.

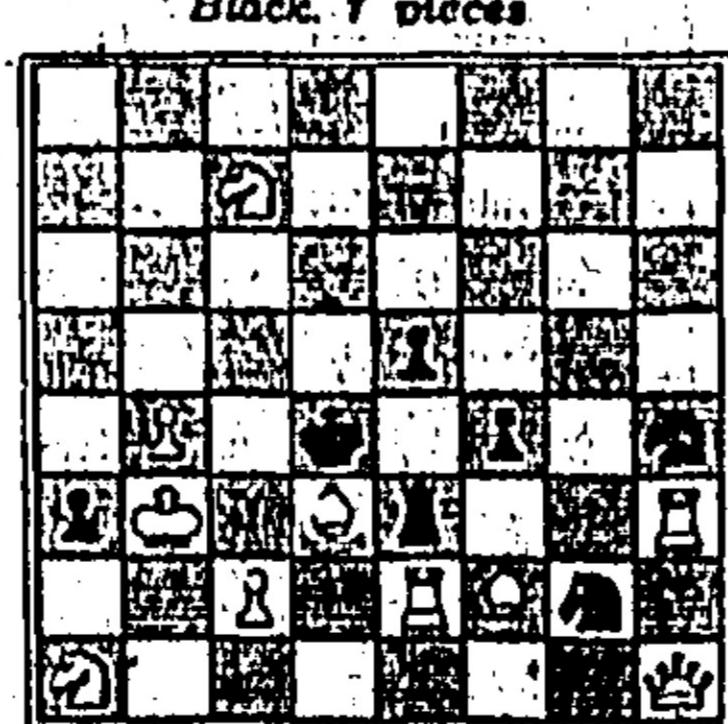
Four Quonset huts will comprise the monastery, built in a 170-foot square, with a bell tower and crossing 71 feet.

This will be the fifth monastery of the order in the United States. The others are in Kentucky, Iowa, Georgia and Rhode Island.

### Check Your Knowledge

- Locate the Channel Islands.
- Denmark, Switzerland and Wisconsin; U.S.A. specialize in what cattle products?
- Name the author of "Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde."
- What are sounding hospitals?
- The caribou is found mainly in what region?
- Where was Rudyard Kipling born?

(Answers on Page 4)

**CHESS PROBLEM**By ARTHUR A. PAUL  
Black, 7 pieces

White, 10 pieces.  
White to play and mate in two.  
Solution to yesterday's problem:  
(P-K4, 1. P-K4, 2. Kt-B3, Bg1, 1. P X Kt; 2. P-R4 ch), 1. Kt (Kt) any; 2. Kt-R3 (ch); others: 2. Kt-K5.

White to play and mate in two.  
Solution to yesterday's problem:  
(P-K4, 1. P-K4, 2. Kt-B3, Bg1, 1. P X Kt; 2. P-R4 ch), 1. Kt (Kt) any; 2. Kt-R3 (ch); others: 2. Kt-K5.

Opium smoking is illegal in both dominions, but there are many addicts.

Safety and access to safety have become recognised black market commodities. Statistician of the Tata Industrial Empire in India recently made pointed comment that a governmental crackdown was in order.

Black marketeers bought large numbers of aeroplane tickets, with bookings far in advance, wherever communal troubles erupted. These tickets are resold at fantastic prices. Sometimes they brought more than 100 times the face value of the ticket. Wealthy refugees in terror of their lives were glad to pay.

Some private pilots reaped rich harvests for the transport of wealthy refugees and their precious possessions to areas of safety.

Automobile owners fleeing from trouble centres had to drive their cars to airports, and leave them behind. Bargain hunters haunted the airfields. They bought these cars at distress prices. The vehicles are now reappearing at the usual black market prices.

**Artificial Shortages**

Matches, cigarettes and other commodities periodically disappear from normal markets without any apparent explanation. They are available in small quantities in the black market, for price. The press has charged that some of these shortages were artificially created.

Some black marketeers operate in reverse, however. In Lahore, Pakistan, Mohammedan looters of Sikh and Hindu shops set up business on the kerb. Many of them had not the vaguest idea of the true values of the things they had stolen. Scotch whisky sold for three rupees a bottle. One man told of having bought a case of gin for one rupee, because the seller thought it was bottled water. This situation did not last long.

Black marketeers in housing seldom make a mistake. One man reported that he had to pay a bonus equivalent to about US\$16,000 to obtain immediate possession of a home he had purchased.

Medicine is an old standby of the black marketeers. Any pill—aspirin or sugar pills—can be sold as a sulfa drug to illiterate buyers.—Associated Press.

Rubber—Neither vul.

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 N.T.	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Opening—▲ 10			

Opening—▲ 10 11

TODAY'S interesting hand was sent to me by Jerome Scheuer of Boston, who played it in a rubber bridge game at the Boston Chess Club. This is one of the oldest clubs in the United States. It actually was a chess club, but today its members probably are not outstanding chess players. However, some of New England's finest bridge players are enrolled.

In commenting on this hand, Scheuer said he thought that North should have bid two diamonds instead of one spade. Also, he pointed out that East's double was very bad. Remember that at rubber bridge very little is gained by setting the contract—one trick, doubled or not doubled. Unless you are positive of setting a hand two tricks, you should not double. If you do, you may give the declarer information that will help him to make the contract. That is exactly what happened in this case.

Scheuer won the opening spade lead in dummy with the king, cashed the spade ace and ruffed the third spade with the five of clubs. He realized that, in order to make the contract, the heart suit had to break. He cashed his four heart tricks—discarding four diamonds from dummy.

Then he cashed the act of diamonds and ruffed a small diamond in dummy with the deuce of clubs. Dummy's fourth spade was led. East was forced to ruff with the seven of clubs, and Mr. Scheuer over-ruffed with the eight. He then led the ten of clubs, and all East could do was to cash the ace and king. The last trick was won in dummy with the club jack.

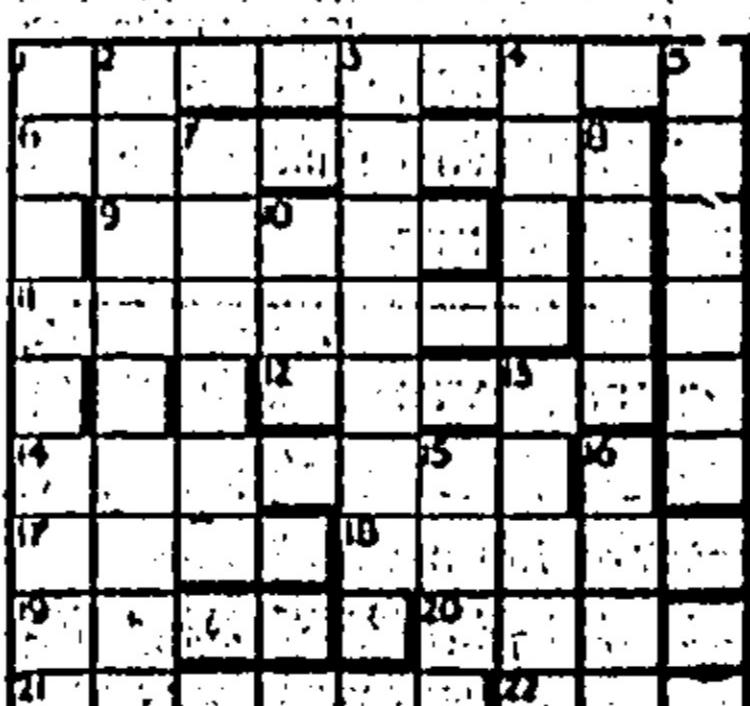
**Two Chinese Women Become Sikhs**

Two Chinese women were converted to the Sikh religion on the eve of their wedding day in Seremban, Malaya. Both wore the Sikh national costume at their weddings. The grooms were Sikhs.

**Rupert and the Big Bang—5**

Reaching the ruins, Rupert can see no sign of Bingo, but in front of him is a steep slope leading to a door which is shut. He drops his satchel and creeps down to it and listens. There is no sound from Bingo, and he pauses. Then he sniffs. "There is an awfully queer smell, as if something's been burning," he murmurs. "I wonder if Bingo always smells like that? Oh, dear, I do wish I knew what this is that Bingo's doing and whether I can help him."

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

Across  
1. And 21. Looted door lace (10)  
2. Dumb (6)  
3. Columbia and make the best go (10)  
4. It's a just principle, but it was intended (10)  
5. Not the place for a claustrophobe (10)  
6. The outfit shall be (6)  
7. It might have been read (10)  
8. This is violently erratic (10)  
9. An alternative to getting close to (10)  
10. Work for the N.F.B. (10)  
11. Solution of yesterday's puzzle (10)  
12. Indaline (6)  
13. Mandate (7)  
14. Asperges (6)  
15. Enclosed (6)  
16. Commander (6)  
17. Neck (6)  
18. Edges (6)  
19. Map (6)  
20. East (6)

**DUMB-BELLS**

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE

YES, HE'S A POST GRADUATE. HE GRADUATED FROM ONE OF THOSE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS!

**Lee Theatre**ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE  
ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.  
BOOKING HOURS: 11.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Daily.

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 &amp; 9.15 P.M.

LONDON FILM PRODUCTION COMPANY

PAULETTE GODDARD  
MICHAEL WILDING

DIANA WYNYARD &amp; GLYNIS JOHN

IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

SIR AUBREY SMITH  
CONSTANCE COLLIERCHRISTINE NORDEN  
HUGH WILLIAMS

Produced and Directed by

ALEXANDER KORDA

IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR!

MORNING SHOW TO-MORROW AT 11.30 A.M.

WALT DISNEY'S

"THE THREE CABALLEROS"

IN TECHNICOLOR!  
AT REDUCED PRICES!

TO-DAY ONLY

QUEENS

At 2.30, 5.15,  
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

PASTEUR 'ZOLA' and now

"The PRIME MINISTER"

JOHN GIELGUD and DIANA WYNYARD

WILL FIFTEEN OWENS NARVES PAT COMPTON Screen Play by Michael Hayes and Donald Whalen

A Warner Bros.-First National Production of Technicolor Story by Reginald Dickson Directed by

OPENES TO-MORROW

5 SHOWS AT 11.30 A.M.: 2.30; 5.00; 7.20 &amp; 9.40 P.M.

"SARATOGA TRUNK"

ORIENTAL

Commencing To-Day: 2.30—5.15—7.20—9.20, p.m.

HERE'S THE GRANDEST ROMANCE PAIR... IN THE SWEETEST MUSICAL OF THE YEAR!

A "GOOD TIME" GIRL

IN A BIG TIME Musical

BETTY GRABLE ROBERT YOUNG ADOLPHE MENJOU

Sweet Rosie O'Grady

IN TECHNICOLOR.

REGINALD DICKSON VIRGINIA REGAN

SPECIAL MORNING SHOW TO-MORROW AT 12.30

"DIAMOND HORSHOE"

LOST

ON WEDNESDAY unclaimed bank

America travellers checks amounting

US\$3720. Finder please return to Mrs

Phyllis H. Mastur, Room 212 Hongkong

Hotel, reward.

settlements, but they are yet to be built.

He explained that the players for 1950 will be elected by a special committee of townspeople. Since players must begin to let their hair grow 18 months before the performance, the players presumably will be selected before next fall.

The Garmisch denazification board, which handles Oberammergau's denazification cases, said it believed most of the players have been processed and only one has been sentenced to prison.

The principal players have been demobilized, he said. Now the production must solve only two more big problems: accommodation for the audience and food for the cast.

Refugees are housed in Oberammergau hotels, he said. The town plans to move them into new

**Comet Splits Into Two**

London, Dec. 30.—The new comet, "1947N," is reported to have split into two sections, which are now 1,200 miles apart, and going different ways.

This report is made by Copenhagen Observatory, but scientists at Greenwich Observatory have seen no signs of the split.

People at Plymouth and in Jersey and the Scilly Isles reported seeing the comet last night. It was visible for about seven minutes.

The Plymouth observers declared they saw a bright star, orange in colour. Scilly Isles inhabitants said that the comet was low on the horizon at a few minutes past six.

A member of the Cambridge Solar Physics Observatory, however, says that the people probably were mistaken.—Reuter.

**GRIM FLOOD SPECTRE IN W. EUROPE**

London, Dec. 30.—France sought emergency credits tonight to cope with the vast floods which have rendered more than 1,000 persons homeless and plunged many large northeastern towns into darkness.

The principal rivers in Western Europe are in spate and still rising. The Rhine and its tributaries have overflowed at many points, bringing shipping to standstill and threatening the homes of basement dwellers in Cologne and other towns of Germany.

The French Council of Ministers decided to ask the National Assembly to vote supplementary credits, where necessary, for areas affected by the flooding, which left many large cities without heat and light.

River authorities are reported to be working "all-out" to minimise the threat to life and property.

Eighteen tons of food from the "Friendship Train," which brought the voluntary gifts to France from America, are to be sent to flooded areas of Eastern France.

**Collar Dwellers Move**

In Germany, families living in the cellars of wrecked houses in Cologne's old city are moving out as a safety precaution while the Rhine rises steadily.

Road traffic across the Rhine is obstructed by a partial collapse of the "Freeman" bridge near Dusseldorf when flood water swept a string of barges against one of the piers.

Considerable floods were also reported today from the Rhine's tributaries.

In the Cologne area, 50 vessels are immobilised.

Five French departments worst affected, are in the basins of the Meurthe and the Moselle rivers, where low-lying farms vanished under water.

Local military formations are carrying out rescue operations.

Flooding in the Bas Rhin department, on the German frontier, is the worst for 50 years.—Reuter.

**Factory Shipped To China**

Ottawa, Dec. 30.—The components parts of a small arms factory have been shipped from Canada to China as part of a \$10,000,000 deal between the two countries for Canadian military equipment.

Mosquito bombers, ammunition for the planes, and landing ground equipment are also included in the deal, which developed from the 1945 mutual aid agreement. It was disclosed.

The small arms ammunition making equipment included machine tools, power tools and presses.

When assembled, it would be able to produce 300 bullets used chiefly in the Lee-Enfield rifle and certain medium machine guns.

It would also be able to turn out nine millimetre bullets used in Sten guns and in the new Canadian automatic pistol.—Reuter.

**P And Q Ships Returning**

London, Dec. 30.—Six more passenger liners of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company are expected to be back in regular service by the end of next summer.

These six ships will be in addition to two vessels which are now running on the service from Britain to India and Australia and from Britain to India and the Far East respectively.

The Strathaird leaves London for Australia next Friday on her first postwar voyage as a reconditioned passenger liner.

The six vessels are the Mooltan, Maldiv, Ranchi, Chital, Carthage and the Corfu. The Ranchi and Chital will take emigrants to Australia.—Reuter.

**INDIA TO TAKE KASHMIR CASE TO UNITED NATIONS**

London, Dec. 30.—India will ask the United Nations Security Council for judgment on the Kashmir issue if Pakistan does not, within the next few days, respond to India's request that the raiders be withdrawn from that state, it is reliably learned in New Delhi.

India has not, however, given Pakistan any specific deadline which would amount to an ultimatum, authoritative quarters stated.

India's decision to refer the Kashmir dispute to the Security Council is entirely proper and legal, according to United Nations legal counselors at Lake Success tonight.

The hope was expressed, however, that conciliation can still be effected between both parties.

According to Article 34 of the Charter, any state can bring to the attention of the Council "any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction or determine whether the continuance of a dispute or a situation is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security."

But legal experts at Lake Success point out that the preceding article of the Charter also recommends to states to seek first of all a solution of any dispute by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration or judicial settlement before bringing it to the Security Council.

**Not Exhausted**

If all such measures fail—and there is a feeling here that conciliation has not been entirely exhausted—then nothing is left but to debate the issue in the Security Council.

Although experience has shown that the Security Council is too

**SPORT:****YVON PETRA WILL SOON TURN PRO**

Paris, Dec. 30.—Marcel Hansenne, well-known French athlete who is a great friend of Yvon Petra, former Wimbledon tennis champion, today confirmed reports that Petra will shortly forego his amateur status.

According to Hansenne, Petra is establishing himself in Belgium where he will take up a contract with a Belgian firm of racquet makers and will devote himself to training the Belgian Olympic tennis team.—Reuter.

**TENNIS AND DOLLARS**

Melbourne, Dec. 30.—Mr. H. A. Pitts, senior Vice-President of the Lawn Tennis Association of Australia, announcing the formal challenge for the 1948 Davis Cup competition, said that this would not commit the Association to competing.

The Association, it is understood, will not discuss the tour and the dollar position until next month—Reuter.

**FRENCH NATIONAL STUD**

Paris, Dec. 30.—The French Government has spent 26,100 guineas on eight horses to start a French national stud.

It paid 3,000 guineas and 4,000 guineas respectively for Camarade II and Fasano, both of whom ran in England this year without success.

Chesterfield, by Admiral Drake, was bought for 6,000 guineas and a steeplechaser, Fair Blond, for 4,000 guineas.—Reuter.

**RING RATINGS**

Washington, Dec. 30.—The National Boxing Association, in the final ratings for the year, warned Willie Pep and Gus Lesnevich to make "long overdue" defence of their titles and at the same time declared Jersey Joe Walcott as the "logical contender" for the heavyweight crown.

Abe J. Greene, President of NBA, said both Pep, featherweight champion, and Lesnevich, light-heavyweight title holder, had been dilatory about arranging their defense.

Walcott was given the nod as the lone top challenger in the heavyweight division because of his recent great fight against champion Joe Louis.

In the middleweight division, the N.B.A. placed Marcel Cerdan, of France, ahead of former middleweight champion Tony Zale among the aspirants for Rocky Graziano's crown.

On the welterweight title held by Ray Robinson, the N.B.A. refused to recognise any logical challenger.

In the lightweight division Bob Montgomery, former champ, and Enrique Bolanos and Gene Burton were listed as the logical contenders for Ike Williams' crown.—United Press.

**GARDEN PROSPECTS**

New York, Dec. 30.—Two heavyweight boxers from Europe, who are as yet undefeated in their ring campaigns in the United States, are the favourite to win their matches in Madison Square Garden on Friday evening.

Fidel Aranizor of Spain is a slight favourite to gain the decision over Tommy Gomez of Tampa, Florida, and Gino Butenughi of Italy is expected to beat Rene Gosney of Oklahoma.

Gomez, who was considered a

first heavyweight prospect a few years ago, is trying to make a come-back campaign. A cocky youngster of Indian descent, he has recently turned professional, he has yet to use a bout.—Reuter.

India is unable to take positive action in political disputes, informed United Nations observers feel more optimistic about the Kashmir case, as it would appear on the surface that there are no big power interests involved and no ideological or political aspects to the dispute.

It is, therefore, confidently expected at the headquarters of the United Nations that the Security Council may reach a solution acceptable to both parties, though not necessarily satisfying to either.

The United Nations has not as yet been informed officially by the dispute, and it is not regarded likely by United Nations observers that the case could start at Lake Success before the end of January at the earliest.

If the Kashmir issue comes before the Council, it is expected in London quarters that United Kingdom representatives will be instructed to give support to any proposal calculated to bring the earliest possible settlement of the problem which would avoid unilateral action by the Government of India.

**British Anxiety**

This is the first point which emerges from the news that India has declared her intention of laying a complaint against Pakistan over the Kashmir problem.

Authoritative London quarters tonight confirm that the Government of India has now informed the United Kingdom Government of its intentions.

The British Government, much concerned about the Kashmir situation, is known to be anxious to assist in measures likely to achieve a peaceful settlement between India and Pakistan.

No doubt every possible step would be taken to ensure the earliest possible hearing of the Government of India's complaint and Pakistan's own appreciation of the situation and her reply to the specific charges made by the Government of India.

There will, doubtless, be a general desire to avoid any lengthy process of argument and counter-argument that might delay a peaceful and friendly settlement.

Equally, if the matter is to be raised before the Security Council, there will be a desire to defer any action that might be prejudicial to an amicable outcome of the dispute.

Britain, as has been underlined time and again, like her Commonwealth sisters, has no status in the matter beyond that of a sympathetic observer, and no one questions the right of the Government of India to place the Kashmir issue before the Council, or the propriety of its action in so doing.

**PRICE OF INDEPENDENCE**

In some British political quarters tonight, however, there was a disposition to recall that the sub-continent of India, during her long struggle for independence, has always tended to resent anything in the nature of outside advice or arbitration.

The division of India into two dominions has been the inevitable price of independence, but to many sympathetic observers in London, the interests of India and Pakistan seem to be so closely bound up with one another politically and economically that it is impossible to think of the two nations looking over each other's frontiers as foreigners, let alone as enemies.

Many people in Britain and doubtless throughout the Commonwealth would hail as an act of supreme statesmanship a friendly settlement achieved directly by India and Pakistan.—Reuter.

**OUTWARD MAI**

On Thursday, January 1, 1948, the

Official Post Office, Kowloon Central Post Office, will open from 8 a.m. to

noon a.m. to 10 a.m. Then, will be

one delivery of ordinary mail and one collection

of mail and air mail parcels.

The Money Order Office will be entirely closed.

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcels, posted close 30 minutes earlier than ordinary mail, if mail

will close at 5 p.m. on previous day.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

CHINA MAIL BY AIR

Manila, 5.30 p.m.

Canton, 5.30 p.m.

Taiwan, 5.30 p.m.

Hankow, Tientsin and Peiping, 5.30 p.m.

Closing Times By Sea & Train

Manila (Sea) 3 p.m.

Batowit, Foochow (Sea) Noon.

Macau, Tsinan, Shekki (Sea) 1 p.m.

Shanghai, 1 p.m.

USA, Canada, Central and South America via San Francisco (No. Parcels for Canada) (Sea), 3 p.m.

Japan (ordinary letters and cards only)

(Sea) 3 p.m.

Taiwan, Shekki & Kongmoon (Sea) 4 p.m.

Canton (Sea) 5 p.m.

Tsingling Times By Air

Shanghai, 0.30 a.m.

Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tsinan

and Peiping, 0.30 a.m.

Kwettin, Noom,

Bangkok, Singapore, Batavia, Colombo,

Singapore, 0.30 a.m.

Macau, Tsinan, Shekki (Sea) 8 a.m.

Swatow (Sea) 11 a.m.

Canton (Train) Noon.

Saigon (Sea) Noon.

Canada (Parcels only) via Vancouver,

Straits and Batavia (Sea) Noon.

Macao, Tsinan, Shekki & Kongmoon (Sea) Noon.

Previous allocations in the advance transfer programme had consisted of about 10,000 machine tools and secondary metal working machine of former Japanese arsenals. Up to the early part of December, reparations delegates of the four nations had inspected the equipment allocated to them in seven of 17 plants and submitted claims for 5,280 items from a total of 9,745 inspected.

The new equipment made available includes most of the remaining types in arsenals. In general it consists of all movable machinery except special purpose equipment solely designed for war, equipment authorised for use in the occupation and certain other types exempted by the FEC policy.

Brig.-Gen. W. K. Harrison, Jr.,

Chief of SCAP's reparations section, reported SCAP had recently

declared additional machinery and

equipment in former Japanese army

and naval arsenals available for allocation to the four claimant

nations.

5,000 Items

Advertised

Advertisers are requested to note

that not less than 24 hours notice

prior to the day of publication should

be given for all commercial display

advertisements, change of copy etc.

Notices and Classified Advertisements will be received up till 4.30 p.m. for the following day.

—United Press.

TO-DAY

ONLY